

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 493

Designation under the Plenary Powers of a type species
in harmony with established usage for the genus *Torquesia*
Douvillé, 1929 (Class Gastropoda)

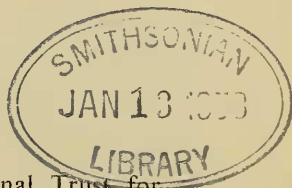
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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 493

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(Arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology)

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Dr. K. H. L. KEY (*Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Canberra, A.C.T., Australia*) (15th October 1954)

Dr. Alden H. MILLER (*Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, U.S.A.*) (29th October 1954)

Doc. Dr. Ferdinand PRANTL (*Národní Museum V Praze, Prague, Czechoslovakia*) (30th October 1954)

Professor Dr. Wilhelm KÜHNELT (*Zoologisches Institut der Universität, Vienna, Austria*) (6th November 1954)

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Professor Ernest MAYR (*Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.*) (4th December 1954)

Professor Enrico TORTONESE (*Museo di Storia Naturale "G. Doria", Genova, Italy*) (16th December 1954)

OPINION 493

DESIGNATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF A TYPE SPECIES IN HARMONY WITH ESTABLISHED USAGE FOR THE GENUS "TORQUESIA" DOUVILLÉ, 1929 (CLASS GASTROPODA)

RULING :—(1) Under the Plenary Powers (a) all designations or selections of type species for the genus *Torquesia* Douvillé, 1929 (Class Gastropoda) made prior to the present Ruling are hereby set aside and (b) the nominal species *Turritella granulata* Sowerby (J. de C.), 1827, is hereby designated to be the type species of the above genus.

(2) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 1232 :—

Torquesia Douvillé, 1929 (gender : feminine) (type species, by designation under the Plenary Powers in (1)(b) above : *Turritella granulata* Sowerby (J. de C.), 1827)

(3) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

(a) *granulata* Sowerby (J. de C.), 1827, as published in the combination *Turritella granulata* (specific name of type species of *Torquesia* Douvillé, 1929) (Name No. 1451) ;

(b) *granulosa* Deshayes, 1832, as published in the combination *Turritella granulosa* (Name No. 1452).

I. THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 30th September 1955, Mr. J. Marwick (*Geological Survey of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand*) submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature the following application for the use of the Plenary Powers to designate a type species in harmony with current usage for the nominal genus *Torquesia* Douvillé, 1929 (Class Gastropoda) :—

Proposed use of the Plenary Powers to designate a type species for the genus “*Torquesia*” Douvillé, 1929 (Class Gastropoda)

By J. MARWICK

(*Geological Survey of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand*)

The object of the present application is to ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to use its Plenary Powers to designate a type species for the genus *Torquesia* Douvillé, 1929 (*Mem. geol. Surv. India*, Pal. Ind. (n.s.) 10 (Mem. 3, Fasc. 2) : 55) (Class Gastropoda) for the purpose of putting a stop to the confusion which has already begun to develop in consequence of the difficulties encountered in interpreting Douvillé's original description of this genus. The facts of this case are set out in the following paragraphs.

2. The generic name *Torquesia* was introduced by Douvillé for a group of Cretaceous TURRITELLIDAE (Class Gastropoda) in the following passage :—

Ces formes sont encore comprises par Cossmann dans son genre *Haustator*, elles en diffèrent nettement par leur ornementation et par leur répartition dans le temps ; leur développement est certainement plus ancien que celui des *Haustator* (*sensu stricto*) ; je proposerai de les distinguer sous le nom de *Torquesia*, en prenant pour type *T. granulosa* de Blackdown.

In his accompanying discussion Douvillé used the same phrase to denote this species, “*T. granulosa* de Blackdown”. Nowhere in his paper did he cite the name of the author of the name *granulosa*.

3. We may consider first whether the species which Douvillé here referred to was *Turritella granulosa* Deshayes, 1832 (*Descr. Coq. foss. Paris* 2 : 275). This is a species from the Middle Eocene of the Paris

Basin. It does not occur in the Cretaceous or at Blackdown. On the other hand there is a species named *Turritella granulata* Sowerby (J. de C.), 1827 (*Min. Conch.* 6 : 125), which is a Cretaceous species which occurs in the south-east of England and of which Blackdown is the type locality. It seems clear that Douvillé by some lapse wrote the name "*granulosa*" by mistake for the word "*granulata*" and that it was Sowerby's species of this name which he intended to make the type species of his genus *Torquesia*. That this is so is shown both by his repeated association of his species with the locality Blackdown and also by the emphasis which he placed on the importance of geological time in taxonomy. Moreover, he stated that the species which he grouped in the genus *Torquesia* were classed by Cossmann under *Haustator*. This is true of *Turritella granulata* Sowerby, but it is not true of *Turritella granulosa* Deshayes, which Cossmann in 1912 (: 120) placed in the genus *Peyrotia* established by him on that occasion.

4. Up to the present time the name *Torquesia* has been little used. This is probably because (1) this name apparently escaped the notice of some of the most prominent of the revisers of the TURRITELLIDAE (e.g. Wenz, 1939 ; Merriam, 1941) ; (2) many authors are chary of subdividing the genus *Turritella* Lamarck owing to the considerable amount of confusion which has prevailed in applying such divisions as have already been proposed. So far as I am aware, only three palaeontologists have used or cited the name *Torquesia* Douvillé. These are :—(a) Serra (1937 : 309) who placed in it two Upper Cretaceous species and a variety of one of these, from Tripoli, (b) Guaitani (1946 : 15), who identified two of Serra's forms in the Libyan Upper Cretaceous but did not discuss the taxonomic status of *Torquesia* ; (3) Bowles (1939 : 268) who listed *Torquesia* in the synonymy of *Turritella* Lamarck, 1799, and gave the type species as "*Turritella granulosa* Deshayes. Eocene of the Paris Basin".

5. The genus *Turritella* Lamarck contains over one thousand named species and subspecies, ranging in age from the Lower Cretaceous to Recent, and it is likely that the future will see a growing tendency to divide this group genus into separate genera and subgenera. It is very desirable therefore that the potential source of confusion represented by the present doubt as to what is the type species of *Torquesia* Douvillé should be cleared up as soon as possible. The Commission is accordingly asked to settle this matter by applying to the foregoing name the procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948, for determining the species to be accepted as the type species of a genus established on the basis of a misidentified type species (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 158—159), and therefore to give a ruling that in accordance with the original intention of Douvillé the nominal species *Turritella granulata* Sowerby be treated as the type species of the genus *Torquesia* Douvillé.

6. The International Commission is accordingly asked :—

- (1) under the procedure prescribed for determining the species to be accepted as the type species of a genus based upon a misidentified type species, to use its Plenary Powers (a) to set aside all designations or selections of type species for the genus *Torquesia* Douvillé, 1929, made prior to the Ruling now asked for, and, having done so, to designate *Turritella granulata* Sowerby (J. de C.), 1827, to be the type species of the foregoing genus ;
- (2) to place the under-mentioned generic name on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* :—*Torquesia* Douvillé, 1929 (gender : feminine) (type species, by designation under the Plenary Powers under (1)(b) above : *Turritella granulata* Sowerby (J. de C.), 1827) ;
- (3) to place the under-mentioned specific names on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—
 - (a) *granulata* Sowerby (J. de C.), 1827, as published in the combination *Turritella granulata* (specific name of type species of *Torquesia* Douvillé, 1929) ;
 - (b) *granulosa* Deshayes, 1832, as published in the combination *Turritella granulosa*.

References

- Bowles, E., 1939, *J. Paleont.* **13**(3) : 267—336
 Cossmann, M., 1912, *Essais Paléoconch. comp.* **9** : 106—130
 Guaitani, F., 1946, *Riv. ital. Paleont.* **52**(3) : 1—23
 Merriam, C. W., 1941, *Bull. Dep. Geol. Univ. Calif.* **26**(1) : 1—129
 Serra, G., 1937, *Boll. Soc. geol. ital.* **56**(3) : 303—315
 Wenz, W., 1939, *Handbuch d. Paläozool.* **6**(1), Lief. 4 : 650—660

II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : Upon the receipt of Mr. Marwick's application the question of the designation of a type species for the nominal genus *Torquesia* Douvillé, 1929 (Class Gastropoda) was allotted the Registered No. Z.N.(S.) 1027.

3. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 30th November 1955 and was published

on 9th May 1956 in Part 11 of Volume 11 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Marwick, 1956, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **11** : 353—355).

4. Issue of Public Notices : Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 9th May 1956 (a) in Part 11 of Volume 11 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which Mr. Marwick's application was published) and (b) to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition, such Notice was given to four general zoological serial publications. Owing to the fact that the genus *Torquesia* Douvillé was founded upon fossil forms, Public Notice regarding this application was given also to three palaeontological serial publications in Europe and America.

5. Support received from L. R. Cox (British Museum (Natural History), London) : On 21st November 1956, Dr. L. R. Cox (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) addressed the following letter of support to the Office of the Commission :—

Torquesia is a genus founded on fossil forms. Knowing Douvillé's habit of trusting to memory when citing generic and specific names and so unintentionally producing new names of both categories, I quite agree with Marwick that when Douvillé referred to "*T. granulosa* de Blackdown" he intended to say "*T. granulata* de Blackdown". I therefore agree also that *Turritella granulata* J. de C. Sowerby, from Blackdown, should be declared to be the type-species of *Torquesia*.

6. No objection received : No objection to the action proposed in the present case was received from any source.

III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

7. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(56)47 : On 30th November 1956, a Voting Paper (V.P.(56)47) was issued in which the Members

of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, " the proposal relating to the generic name *Torquesia* Douvillé, 1929, as set out in Points (1) to (3) in paragraph 6 on pages 354—355 of Volume 11 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* " [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

8. The Prescribed Voting Period : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 2nd March 1957.

9. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(56)47 : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(56)47 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-four (24) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Boschma ; Vokes ; Hering ; Mayr ; Lemche ; Holthuis ; Prantl ; Bonnet ; Mertens ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Bodenheimer ; Dymond ; Kühnelt ; Riley ; Key ; Esaki ; Stoll ; do Amaral ; Cabrera ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Tortonese ; Hemming ; Jaczewski ; Miller ;

(b) *Negative Votes :*

None ;

(c) *Prevented from voting by interruption of postal communications consequent upon political disturbances, one (1) :*

Hankó ;

(d) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

10. Declaration of Result of Vote : On 3rd March 1957, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(56)47, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 9 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

11. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present " Opinion " : On 14th August 1957, Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(56)47.

12. Original References : The following are the original references for the names placed on *Official Lists* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

granulata, *Turritella*, Sowerby (J. de C.), 1827, *Min. Conch.* **6** : 125

granulosa, *Turritella*, Deshayes, 1832, *Descr. Coq. foss. Paris* **2** : 275

Torquesia Douvillé, 1929, *Mem. geol. Surv. India*, Pal. ind. (n.s.)

10 (Mem. 3, Fasc. 2) : 55

13. Family-Group-Name Aspect : No family-group-name problem arises in the present case, the genus *Torquesia* Douvillé, 1929, being currently placed in the family TURRITELLIDAE.

14. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission

by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

15. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Four Hundred and Ninety-Three (493) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Fourteenth day of August, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Seven.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING